Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on Page 8, lines 8-12, with the following amended paragraph:

Current Operating System Inventory implementations (such as the IBM AIX Object Data Manager (ODM), the ~~Linux Red Hat~~ LINUX RED HAT Package Manager (RPM) or the ~~Microsoft Windows~~ MICROSOFT WINDOWS Registry) follow either [OpenGroup 1998] and [IEEE 1387.2 1995] or describe the software inventory in a proprietary format. Thus, the aforementioned limitations also apply to them.

Please replace the paragraph on Page 10, lines 3-11, with the following amended paragraph:

1. The first source comprises Deployment Descriptors that annotate software packages, which reside in a software repository or on a software installation server. Deployment descriptors (such as the ones used by ~~Linux~~ LINUX RPM or AIX installp packages) provide meta-information, gathered at build time (and preferably automatically generated by the development tools), about a software package, such as identifying and version data, and dependency information. This dependency information lists the pre-requisites (packages that must be present on the system for an installation to succeed), the co-requisites (packages that must be jointly installed) as well as ex-requisites (packages that must be removed prior to installing a new package).

Please replace the paragraph bridging Pages 18-19with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 2 the topology as well as the dependency relationships of an eCommerce Application System, according to an embodiment of the present invention is depicted. Such a relationship model focuses on software artifacts and their logical (modules, components) and physical (files, shared libraries) architecture. It captures the detailed descriptions of SW components, i.e., the system inventory, which is usually recorded in the various system repositories or in well-defined places e.g., the configuration files of a Managed Resource **(160).** Examples of system repositories include, but are not limited to the IBM AIX Object Data Manager (ODM), the ~~Linux Red Hat~~ <u>LINUX RED HAT</u> Package Manager (RPM) or the ~~Microsoft Windows~~ <u>MICROSOFT WINDOWS</u> Registry. Information relating to software components is typically captured during the installation and deployment of a software package. In addition, the relationship model contains the dependencies between the various system components, depicted as arrows. For the sake of clarity, the names of the artifact types are written in normal typeface while the names of the products implementing them structural model are written in italic in Figure 2

Please replace the paragraph on Page 19, lines 6-11, with the following amended paragraph:

Host system "X" **(265)** plays the role of a Web Application Server and hosts the following components: The E-business Application, which is preferably implemented by a total of 14 Servlets **(200, 205, 210).** The latter encapsulate the business logic of the

application. The Servlet Container **(240)** is preferably implemented by ~~IBM WebSphere Application Server~~ WEBSPHERE APPLICATION SERVER (WAS) Servlet Container. The Operating System (OS) is preferably ~~Linux~~ LINUX version 7.2 **(245).**

Please replace the paragraph on Page 19, lines 12-16, with the following amended paragraph:

Host system "Y" **(270)** plays the role of a Database Server and hosts the following components: 10 Database tables **(235, 250)** that hold the data accessed by the Servlets **(200, 205, 210).** The database tables reside within a Database preferably implemented by (IBM) DB2 ~~Universal Database~~ UNIVERSAL DATABASE (UDB) version 8.1 **(255),** and an Operating System (OS), here preferably (IBM) ~~Advanced Interactive Executive~~ ADVANCED INTERACTIVE EXECUTIVE (AIX) version 5.1 **(260).**